Shaking it up

Thunder coach Billy Donovan says communication is the key to implementing lineup changes.

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Continued development near Superfund site sparks concern

BY JUSTIN WINGERTER
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MIDWEST CITY — As the Environmental Protection Agency considers whether a site contaminated with cancer-causing chemicals is one of the nation's worst, development continues unabated behind it and a large land sale has occurred across the street.

The stark contrast between contamination and nearby construction has jolted nearby residents and concerned citizens, prompting inquiries to city offices. Midwest City has largely deferred to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, which has frustrated at least one city councilman.

The trichloroethylene that Eagle Industries employees dumped at 10901 SE 29 St. has largely moved on, migrating through groundwater to the southwest, where it is expected to threaten homes and businesses for years to come. EPA cleanup could last a decade or longer. It is being considered for a national priorities list of Superfund sites.

Meanwhile, a middle-class development, Turtlewood, has thrived to the north and is expanding to the west and northwest of the former Eagle site. Concerned residents have posted photos of construction at Turtlewood on social media and asked whether, considering the contamination nearby, development is appropriate.

SEE SITE, 2A

PARTY ON

Why the Sooners earned the chance to celebrate after the Big 12 title game

BY JENNI CARLSON
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ARLINGTON, TEXAS — Baker Mayfield helicoptered a Big 12 championship shirt over his head as he sprinted down the sideline.

A Sooner celebration that was already full-throated got even louder.

Oklahoma 41, TCU 17.

The Sooners are Big 12 champs — and bound for the College Football Playoff.

That second designation will be made official Sunday, but of the league title, there is no doubt. On a day when teams all over the country were not only playing for conference crowns but also making final arguments for playoff spots, no team had an exclamation mark quite like OU's.

"This team has fought

SEE BIG 12, 3A

University of Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield, left, holds his Most Outstanding Player trophy while celebrating Saturday with head coach Lincoln Riley, right, and the team after the Sooners 41-17 win in the Big 12 Conference championship NCAA college football game against Texas Christian University in Arlington, Texas. [AP PHOTO]

Oklahoma senators vote for tax bill

U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Tulsa

BY JUSTIN WINGERTER
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After weeks of consideration and 14 hours of debate Friday, Oklahoma's two U.S. senators voted after midnight in favor of a major tax cut package that narrowly passed the Senate.

While Sen. Jim Inhofe's vote was unsurprising and never in doubt, Sen. James Lankford's support hung in the balance for much of the week over his opposition to raising the national debt.

On Wednesday, Lankford said he would vote for the bill if a deficit trigger — a provision repealing the tax cuts when revenue drops — was inserted. Thursday night, it was not inserted. Friday, he voted for the bill without it.

"I'm going to be yes either way," Lankford told Capitol Hill reporters before the vote. "It's walking a tightrope with a net or without a net. You prefer to have a net but I think it's going to work."

The Senate bill would

SEE CONGRESS, 10A

U.S. Sen. James Lankford, R-Oklahoma City, gets on an elevator Friday on Capitol Hill in Washington. [AP PHOTO]

TODAY'S PRAYER
Holy God, we praise You and worship You, as we strive to live up to Your expectations. Amen.

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